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- ☒ patent application of
☐ continuation patent application of
☐ divisional patent application of
☐ continuation-in-part patent application of

Inventor(s)/Applicant Identifier: **Keiji Usuba, Yoshimi Nakagawa, Satoko Araki, and Yusuke Yajima**For: **Transmission Equipment for Network and Network Transmission System**

- ☒ This application claims priority from each of the following Application Nos./filing dates:
Japanese Patent Application Reference No. P2000-038037, filed February 9, 2000
the disclosure(s) of which is (are) incorporated by reference.
- ☐ Please amend this application by adding the following before the first sentence: "This application is a ☐ continuation ☐ continuation-in-part of and claims the benefit of U.S. Application No. 60/_____, filed _____, the disclosure of which is incorporated by reference."

Enclosed are:

- ☒ 14 page(s) of specification
☒ 8 page(s) of claims
☒ 1 page of Abstract
☒ 13 sheet(s) of ☒ formal ☐ informal drawing(s).
☐ An assignment of the invention to Hitachi, Ltd.
☐ A ☐ signed ☐ unsigned Declaration & Power of Attorney
☐ A ☐ signed ☐ unsigned Declaration.
☐ A Power of Attorney by Assignee with Certificate Under 37 CFR Section 3.73(b).
☐ A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 CFR 1.9 and 37 CFR 1.27 ☐ is enclosed ☐ was filed in the prior application and small entity status is still proper and desired.
☒ A certified copy of a Japanese application.
☒ Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97, Form PTO-1449, and one reference.
☐ A petition to extend time to respond in the parent application.
☐ Notification of change of ☐ power of attorney ☐ correspondence address filed in prior application.

	(Col. 1)	(Col. 2)
FOR:	NO. FILED	NO. EXTRA
BASIC FEE		
TOTAL CLAIMS	28 - 20	= *8
INDEP. CLAIMS	5 - 3	= *2

☐ MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENTED

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Respectfully submitted,
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PATENT APPLICATION

Transmission Equipment for Network and Network Transmission System

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This application claims priority from Japanese Patent Application

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The present invention relates generally to optical transmission networks, and more particularly to fault tolerance and recovery in Bi-directional Line Switched Ring of Synchronous Optical Networks (SONET) employing Synchronous Digital Hierarchy (SDH).

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What is really needed are techniques for isolating a network node

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According to the present invention, techniques for automatically isolating

a node having an internal fault in order to relieve a path provided there through are

provided. Embodiments can include systems, apparatus and methods that provide such

isolation. Switching controls can be activated in response to obstacles present in nodes

and transmission lines, in specific embodiments. The switching controls can reroute traffic in order to avoid the obstacle. Specific embodiments can detect network conditions such as a no-main-signal condition, for example, and can activate node isolation at the time a network is structured, for example.

5 In a representative embodiment according to the present invention, a transmission apparatus for use in a communication network is provided. The network can comprise a plurality of transmission equipment connected through a plurality of transmission lines that transmit synchronous multiplex signals, for example. An overhead for supervision, maintenance and operations of transmission equipment and transmission
10 lines is added to a payload in which main signals are multiplexed within the apparatus. The transmission apparatus comprises an optical transmitter that transmits synchronous multiplex signals to the transmission lines, and an optical receiver that receives the synchronous multiplex signals from the transmission lines. Further, the apparatus can comprise an overhead processing unit that adds the overhead to the payload and extracts
15 the overhead out of the synchronous multiplex signals from the optical receiver. A cross connect unit that divides and multiplexes the payload inputted from the overhead processing unit, switches output routes of the payload for transmission to either of the transmission lines, and outputs to the overhead processing unit again, can also be part of the apparatus. Further, a clock unit that supplies a clock to at least the cross connect unit
20 and an equipment supervision unit that supervises at least the cross connect unit and the clock unit and outputs an instruction signal based upon the result of the supervision can also comprise the apparatus. A switching control unit that controls switching of the transmission lines so that, based upon the instruction signal and the overhead, the cross connect unit, the overhead processing unit and the optical transmitter, the synchronous
25 multiplex signals may be transmitted to either of the transmission lines properly. In the apparatus, upon the equipment supervising unit detecting a condition in which obstacles have occurred in more than one group in at least either of the cross connect unit and the clock unit, the equipment supervision unit inserts information about the obstacles in the instruction signal, and the switching control unit into which the instruction signal is
30 inputted enables the overhead processing unit and the optical transmitter to output isolation instruction information to the transmission line.

In another representative embodiment according to the present invention, when an obstacle occurs in equipment and a path through a node of interest cannot be relieved, the node of interest can be transferred into an isolated condition.

In a yet further representative embodiment according to the present invention, a method for recovering from a plurality of substantially contemporaneous faults in a network node is provided. The method can be operable in a network node capable of transmitting information as synchronous multiplex signals via a plurality of transmission lines, for example. The method can include a variety of steps, including a step of preparing isolation information into an instruction signal according to the plurality of substantially contemporaneous faults. A step of providing the isolation information to at least one of a plurality of adjacent network nodes can also be part of the method. Additionally, the method can include a step of switching transmission lines based upon the instruction signal so that the synchronous multiplex signals may be transmitted to either of the transmission lines properly.

Also, in specific embodiments according to the present invention, when the obstacle occurs in the equipment, the optical fiber transmission lines that provide input to the node can be regarded as being in an obstructed condition similar to having a signal obstacle condition. Alternatively, a ring switch can be forcefully activated at both ends of the node, causing the faulty node to be transferred into an isolated condition. In another alternative embodiment control information indicating that the transmission line is in an abnormal condition is inserted in the optical fiber transmission lines leading out from the faulty node. In a further embodiment, optical output is disconnected and the faulty node is transferred into an isolated condition.

Numerous benefits are achieved by way of the present invention over conventional techniques. The present invention can provide a path through a network having a faulty node, such that network constraints can be relieved by an automatic switching function of the BLSR network. In some specific embodiments, even when a path provided through a node cannot be relieved, due to an obstacle occurring in a cross connection unit or a clock unit in a BLSR network, for example, the node isolation can be activated, and as a result, in such embodiments, the path provided through the node can be relieved.

These and other benefits are described throughout the present specification. A further understanding of the nature and advantages of the invention

herein may be realized by reference to the remaining portions of the specification and the attached drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

- 5 Fig. 1 shows a diagram of a representative structure of a BLSR network;
 Fig. 2 shows a diagram of a representative structure of a node;
 Fig. 3 shows a diagram of a representative node in which a cross connect
 unit in which obstacles have occurred in more than one group in a particular embodiment
 according to the present invention;
- 10 Fig. 4 shows a diagram of a representative BLSR network having a cross
 connect unit of node B in which obstacles have occurred in more than one group in a
 particular embodiment according to the present invention;
 Fig. 5 shows a relationship between a K-byte and a pattern;
 Fig. 6 shows a route in which a path is relieved in a particular embodiment
 15 according to the present invention;
 Fig. 7 shows a node disconnecting an output for a cross connect unit in
 which obstacles have occurred in more than one group in a particular embodiment
 according to the present invention;
 Fig. 8 shows a BLSR network indicating an output disconnection for a
 20 cross connect unit in which obstacles have occurred in more than one group in a
 particular embodiment according to the present invention;
 Fig. 9 shows a node executing an overhead processing for a clock unit in
 which obstacles have occurred in more than one group in a particular embodiment
 according to the present invention;
- 25 Fig. 10 shows a node disconnecting an output for a clock unit in which
 obstacles have occurred in more than one group in a particular embodiment according to
 the present invention;
 Fig. 11 shows a flowchart illustrating a processing in a particular
 embodiment according to the present invention;
- 30 Fig. 12 shows the basic structure of a node of a particular embodiment
 according to the present invention having two fibers on one side; and

Fig. 13 shows a 2-fiber BLSR network having a cross connect unit in which obstacles have occurred in more than one group in a particular embodiment according to the present invention.

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DESCRIPTION OF THE SPECIFIC EMBODIMENTS

The present invention provides techniques for rerouting traffic around nodes in which obstacles have occurred in more than one group in the network.

The present invention will be best understood having reviewed the fundamentals underlying BLSR type SONET networks as described herein. There are
 10 presently a 2-fiber BLSR and a 4-fiber BLSR known as BLSR networks of SONET. In 2-fiber BLSR networks, equipment is interconnected by two optical fibers, and the capacity of each line is divided into two, one half of the capacity being used for the working system, the remaining half thereof for the protection system. By contrast, in the 4-fiber BLSR, a "working line" and a "protection line," are provided, thus the nodes are
 15 interconnected by four optical fibers. In such ring networks, data is transferred by frame called Synchronous Transport Signal-Level 1 (STS-1), for example. These frames are time division multiplexed and transmitted to the predetermined time slots.

The frame comprises a synchronous multiplex signal to be transmitted or multiplexed and divided. Frames are created by adding a signal, called an "overhead,"
 20 for supervision, maintenance and operations of transmission equipment and the communication network to a digitized and multiplexed main signal, called a "payload."

In both the 2-fiber BLSR and the 4-fiber BLSR networks, a "working line" is one that can be used for transmission, and a "protection line" is one used to relieve traffic when obstacles occur. The network traffic flows around what is called a "path."
 25 A representative example, in the case of a 4-fiber BLSR OC-48 (Optical Carrier) network, will be described by the following.

The 4-fiber BLSR, in which a plurality of nodes are interconnected by lines in a ring shape, comprises four bi-directional optical fibers, two for nodes on an adjacent side and the other two for nodes on the other adjacent side. These optical fibers
 30 comprise a working line in the clockwise (CW) direction, a protection line in the CW direction, a working line in the counterclockwise (CCW) direction and a protection line in the CCW direction. Each node can accommodate a lower level network element, and can add or drop an STS-1 path of each line between the lower level network element and the

As an example, when an obstacle occurs on a CW working line alone between two particular nodes, a path through the faulty section is provided by

As another example, when obstacles occur on both the CW working line and the CW protection line between two particular nodes, a path through the faulty

sections can be provided by looping back to a CCW protection line in the reverse direction. In other words, of the nodes at both ends of the faulty optical fiber

transmission line, one node loops the path back through the CCW protection line in the reverse direction, and the other node drops the path from the CCW protection line. Nodes

other than the nodes of interest at the ends are placed into a condition of letting the path go through using the CCW protection line (hereafter also called the “Full Pass Through”

Thus nodes at the faulty ends (at the both ends of the faulty optical fiber transmission line) execute the span switch or the ring switch.

Further, as another example, when obstacles occur in four fibers that provide input to a given node, the node is placed into a “node isolation” condition, in

which the node is isolated, and a node adjacent to the isolated node executes the ring switch. In this case, one of the adjacent nodes sets a path using the CW working line

Such switching controls are executed by a K-byte, which is switching control information, called the “overhead,” for supervision, maintenance and operations.

Further, in 4-fiber BLSR networks, the switching control is executed by K-bytes that can be extracted from the protection line. The switching control is activated by obstacles on

transmission lines. Examples of such obstacles include a no-main-signal condition (Loss of Signal; also called “LOS”), an out-of-frame synchronization condition (Loss of Frame;

also called “LOF”) and a faulty transmission line condition (Line Alarm Indication Signal; also called “Line AIS”). Further, Loss of Signal, Loss of Frame and Line Alarm

Indication Signal are called signal failure conditions (Signal Failure; hereafter called “SF”).

When an obstacle occurs inside a node, or even when protected by a duplex system, i.e., in the case when both the node components for the working line (“working system”) and the node components for the protection line (“protection system”) have obstacles, not only are paths branched and dropped, but also a path provided through the node is disconnected.

Conventional switching controls are activated by obstacles on transmission lines and but not activated by obstacles inside the node. However, due to obstacles and so on inside the node, a path provided through the node may sometimes be disconnected. Responsive to such conditions, specific embodiments according to the present invention provide techniques for isolating a node having such faults and providing a path that circumvents the node. Representative embodiments according to the present invention will now be described with reference to Figs. 1 through 13.

Fig. 1 shows a representative example BLSR network 10 that illustrates how transmission lines can be used in a particular embodiment according to the present invention. The BLSR network 10 comprises optical fiber transmission lines 11 and a plurality of nodes 12. Fig. 1 shows the BLSR network 10 comprising 6 nodes (node A, node B, node C, node D, node E and node F). It also shows that a path is added at A using the working line 13 in the CW direction and dropped at C through B.

Fig. 2 shows representative node 12 in a particular embodiment according to the present invention. Since nodes in BLSR network 10 all have similar structures, an example node is shown in Fig. 2 as representative of such nodes.

In Fig. 2, the node 12 is an Add-Drop Multiplexer (ADM) node that accommodates a working line 13 in the CW direction, a protection line 14 in the CW direction, a working line 15 in the CCW direction and a protection line 16 in the CCW direction, as well as an Add line 47 (a line for adding a path from low level equipment 30) and a Drop line 48 (a line for dropping a path and outputting it to the low level equipment 30).

Optical signal input is received from an adjacent node by an optical receiver (R) 41, and then provided as input to each part of a duplex overhead processing unit 43 for overhead processing. Paths whose overheads are removed are then provided as input to a cross connect unit 40 that performs a Time Slot Interchange (TSI) and a Time Slot Assignment (TSA) of respective paths on the high-speed side and the low-speed side, and are delivered in respective directions by STS-1. In this case, the paths

that are input to the duplex cross connect unit 40 are the same ones. Delivered paths are each multiplexed, overheads thereof being processed by the overhead processing unit 43, converted into optical signals by an optical transmitter (T) 42 and then provided as output from any one of the working lines 13 in the CW direction, the protection lines 14 in the CW direction, the working lines 15 in the CCW direction, the protection lines 16 in the CCW direction and the Drop line 48. Further, between the duplex cross connect unit 40 and the overhead processing unit 43, there is a selector 50 that selects a path according to an instruction of an equipment supervision unit 46 that supervises obstacles in the equipment. This relation between the equipment supervision unit 46 and the selector 50 is not shown in Fig. 2, however.

Further, according to conditions of the transmission line (broken optical fiber, and the like) and instructions from the Operation System (OpS), which serves as a control unit of the whole system, executions of the ring switch and the span switch are determined, and a switching order is given to the cross connect unit 40. Upon reception of the switching order from a switch control unit 44, the cross connect unit 40 switches paths according to conditions (such as the Ring Switch, the Span Switch and the Full Pass Through). Further, the switching control unit 44 collects K-bytes to be provided as input from the overhead processing unit 43, controls K-bytes to be provided as output at the overhead processing unit 43. Also, the switching control unit 44 controls the optical transmitter (T) 42, and has a function to stop the output of optical signals. The equipment supervision unit 46 supervises obstacle handling for the node. Upon detecting an obstacle, equipment supervision unit 46 outputs obstacle information in the form of an instruction signal to the switching control unit 44. A clock unit 45 provides each functional section in the node with a clock signal. The cross connect unit 40, the clock unit 45, and the like can be duplexed for improving reliability. The duplexed units are shown in the embodiment in Fig. 2.

Fig. 3 shows a representative embodiment according to the present invention. In the representative embodiment illustrated by Fig. 3, obstacles exist in both the working system and the protection system of the cross connect unit 40, and paths provided through cross connect unit 40 are disconnected. For example, when an obstacle occurs in the cross connect unit 40 in the node B, as shown in Fig. 1, paths are disconnected as described above. In the example illustrated by Fig. 3, the equipment supervision unit 46, detects that obstacles have occurred in more than one group, i.e., the

working system and the protection system, of the cross connect unit 40. Responsive to this obstacle condition, equipment supervision unit 46 disconnects paths provided through cross connect unit 40. In the event that a condition in which obstacles have occurred in more than one group is detected, the equipment supervision unit 46 outputs an instruction signal, in which the obstacle information is assigned to an information section unused by the instruction signal, to the switching control unit 44. Then, in order to isolate the equipment, the switch control unit 44, the overhead processing unit 43 and the optical transmitter 42 output isolation instruction information "a" and isolation instruction information "b" to an optical fiber transmission line for an adjacent node. Upon receiving the isolation instruction information, the adjacent node executes a ring switch so that the faulty node in question may be isolated. The details will be described in the following.

Fig. 4 illustrates a case in which the cross connect unit of Fig. 1 has obstacles in both the working system and the protection system. Fig. 4 shows that a K-byte comprising isolation instruction information "a" or isolation instruction information "b," is provided by the node B. The isolation instruction information "a" and the isolation instruction information "b" are K-bytes comprising the combination shown in Fig. 5, for example. Further, the isolation instruction information "a" and the isolation instruction information "b" may be the same information.

Pattern 1 in Fig. 5 shows K-bytes which are the same as the ones when signal failures (SF) occur in all four fibers to be inputted, namely, the working line 15, the working line 13, the protection line 16 and the protection line 14.

Pattern 2 in Fig. 5 shows K-bytes to be provided as output in the case of FS-R, in which a ring switch is forcefully executed on both sides of the node B.

Pattern 3 in Fig. 5 shows that signals of Line-AIS (K2 bits 6 to 8 are set to a value of "1") in the case of a faulty transmission line defined by GR-1230, which can be provided as output. When providing Line-AIS as output, any combination of the remaining bits of K1 and K2 is possible, and is indicated by "*" in Fig. 5. K-bytes of Pattern 1, Pattern 2 and Pattern 3 can be inserted in overheads of respective transmission lines by the overhead processing unit 43 of the node B.

Fig. 6 shows a representative BLSR network after the K-bytes illustrated by Fig. 5 are transmitted from the node B. In Fig. 6, the ring switches are executed in the node A and the node C, which have received K-bytes illustrated by Fig. 5. Normally, the paths set up as in Fig. 1 are protected by using the protection transmission line 16 through

K-bytes are according to pattern 2 of Fig. 5. Further, these K-bytes can be similar to those used in a BLSR network such as the one in Fig. 4.

As illustrated by a step 54.3, the switching control unit 44 can tell the overhead processing unit 43 that all four output transmission lines are in a condition analogous to an abnormal transmission line (Line-AIS) condition. Responsive thereto, the overhead processing unit 43 inserts K-bytes indicating a Line-AIS condition and sends these K-bytes to the optical transmitter 42. These K-bytes are according to pattern 3 of Fig. 5. Further, these K-bytes can be similar to those used in a BLSR network such as the one in Fig. 4.

As illustrated by a step 54.4, the switching control unit 44 can tell the optical transmitter to stop transmission so that all the four outputted transmission lines are disconnected.

By performing one of the operations of steps 55.1, 55.2, 55.3, or 55.4, in a BLSR network having an automatic switching function, a path through a node in which obstacles have occurred in more than one group of a cross connect unit or a clock unit can be relieved. For example, in networks such as the BLSR network of Fig. 1, paths can be relieved as illustrated by Fig. 6 using techniques according to the present invention as described herein.

In a representative embodiment according to the present invention, any of the processing techniques of steps 55.1, 55.2, 55.3, or 55.4 may be provided for in advance of a node failure. Further, in some specific embodiments an optional switching between hard failure processing techniques or soft failure processing techniques, may be performed according to the purpose of the embodiment. Further, when comparatively soft failure processing techniques are desired, the choice should be made steps 55.1, 55.2, 55.3, though such processing may require more processing time. On the other hand, when comparatively hard failure processing techniques, such as of step 55.4, are chosen, the only operation performed is to give an instruction to disconnect an optical output of the optical transmitter. In this case, one technique for disconnecting the optical output, is to cut off the power supply to the optical transmitter, with the effect of allowing a reduction in current consumption can be expected. Second, if a transmission signal input to the optical transmitter is masked by an optical-emitting element driving circuit and the optical output is shut off, a recovery is relatively easier than if the technique of cutting off the power is used.

Further, in the above described embodiments, the 4-fiber BLSR was used merely as a representative example. However, the present invention is applicable to the 2-fiber BLSR, and other popular ring network technologies as well.

Fig. 12 shows a representative node of a 2-fiber BLSR of the present invention.

Fig. 13 shows a representative 2-fiber BLSR network in a particular embodiment according to the present invention. The configurations and operations in Figs. 12 and 13 are relatively similar to those described above. One difference is that the capacity of each line is divided into two, and one half is used for the working system and a remaining half thereof is used for the protection system, thereby the capacity is reduced to the half in the cross connect unit.

The 2-fiber BLSR network has such a configuration that one half of the capacity is used for the working system and a remaining half thereof is used for the protection system. In various specific embodiments, the instructed switching control unit 44 and the overhead processing unit 43 can perform any one of the following operations responsive to the instructions received by equipment supervision unit 46 in step 53B as illustrated in Fig. 11.

As illustrated by a step 54.1, the switching control unit 44 can tell the overhead processing unit 43 that the condition is the same as in the case when SF failures are detected in the two input transmission lines. Responsive thereto, in a step 55.1, the overhead processing unit 43 inserts K-bytes according to pattern 1 of Fig. 5 and sends these K-bytes to the optical transmitter 42.

As illustrated by a step 54.2, the switching control unit 44 can tell the overhead processing unit 43 to execute the forced ring switch (FS-R) on both sides of the faulty node. Responsive thereto, the overhead processing unit 43 inserts K-bytes indicating a FS-R command and sends these K-bytes to the optical transmitter 42.

As illustrated by a step 54.3, the switching control unit 44 can tell the overhead processing unit 43 that both of the output transmission lines are in a condition analogous to an abnormal transmission line (Line-AIS) condition. Responsive thereto, the overhead processing unit 43 inserts K-bytes indicating a Line-AIS condition and sends these K-bytes to the optical transmitter 42.

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A transmission apparatus for use in a communication network to
- 2 which a plurality of transmission equipment are connected through a plurality of
- 3 transmission lines transmitting synchronous multiplex signals, wherein overhead for
- 4 supervision, maintenance and operations of transmission equipment and transmission
- 5 lines is added to a payload in which main signals are multiplexed, said transmission
- 6 apparatus comprising:
- 7 an optical transmitter that transmits said synchronous multiplex signals to
- 8 said transmission lines,
- 9 an optical receiver that receives said synchronous multiplex signals from
- 10 said transmission lines,
- 11 an overhead processing unit that adds said overhead to said payload and
- 12 extracts said overhead out of said synchronous multiplex signals from said optical
- 13 receiver,
- 14 a cross connect unit that divides and multiplexes said payload inputted
- 15 from said overhead processing unit, switches output routes of said payload for
- 16 transmission to either of said transmission lines, and outputs to the overhead processing
- 17 unit again,
- 18 a clock unit that supplies a clock to at least said cross connect unit,
- 19 an equipment supervision unit that supervises at least said cross connect
- 20 unit and said clock unit and outputs an instruction signal based upon the result of the
- 21 supervision,
- 22 a switching control unit that controls switching of the transmission lines so
- 23 that, being based upon said instruction signal and said overhead, said cross connect unit,
- 24 said overhead processing unit and said optical transmitter, said synchronous multiplex
- 25 signals may be transmitted to either of said transmission lines properly; and wherein
- 26 upon said equipment supervising unit detecting a condition in which
- 27 obstacles have occurred in more than one group in at least either of said cross connect
- 28 unit and said clock unit, said equipment supervision unit inserts information about said
- 29 obstacles in said instruction signal, and said switching control unit into which said
- 30 instruction signal is inputted enables said overhead processing unit and the optical
- 31 transmitter to output isolation instruction information to said transmission line.

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1 2. A transmission apparatus according to claim 1, said transmission
2 apparatus and an adjacent transmission equipment being interconnected by two optical
3 fibers; wherein the capacity of each line is divided into two, one half thereof being used
4 as a working line and the remaining half thereof being used as a protection line; and
5 wherein, upon occurrence of said obstacle, said isolation instruction information further
6 comprising said overhead indicating that said synchronous multiplex signals to be
7 received are both in a signal obstacle condition.

1 3. A transmission apparatus according to claim 1, said transmission
2 apparatus and an adjacent transmission equipment being interconnected by four optical
3 fibers, each being used as a working line or a protection line; and wherein, upon
4 occurrence of said obstacle, said isolation instruction information further comprising said
5 overhead indicating that said synchronous multiplex signals to be received are both in a
6 signal obstacle condition.

1 4. A transmission apparatus for a network according to claim 1, said
2 transmission apparatus and an adjacent transmission equipment being interconnected by
3 two optical fibers; wherein the capacity of each line is divided into two, one half thereof
4 being used as a working line and the remaining half thereof being used as a protection
5 line; and wherein, upon occurrence of said obstacle, said isolation instruction information
6 further comprising said overhead for instructing a ring switch transmitting, upon
7 reception, the received synchronous multiplex signals.

1 5. A transmission apparatus for a network according to claim 1, said
2 transmission apparatus and an adjacent transmission equipment being interconnected by
3 four optical fibers, each being used as a working line or a protection line; and wherein,
4 upon occurrence of said obstacle, said isolation instruction information further
5 comprising said overhead for instructing a ring switch transmitting, upon reception, the
6 received synchronous multiplex signals.

1 6. A transmission apparatus for a network according to claim 1, said
2 transmission apparatus and an adjacent transmission equipment being interconnected by
3 two optical fibers; wherein the capacity of each line is divided into two, one half thereof
4 being used as a working line and the remaining half thereof being used as a protection

5 line; and wherein, upon occurrence of said obstacle, said isolation instruction information
6 further comprising said overhead indicating that said synchronous multiplex signals to be
7 transmitted are in a signal obstacle condition.

1 7. A transmission apparatus for a network according to claim 1, said
2 transmission apparatus and an adjacent transmission equipment being interconnected by
3 four optical fibers, each being used as a working line or a protection line; and wherein,
4 upon occurrence of said obstacle, said isolation instruction information further
5 comprising said overhead indicating that said synchronous multiplex signals to be
6 transmitted are in a signal obstacle condition.

1 8. A transmission apparatus for a network according to claim 1, said
2 transmission apparatus and an adjacent transmission equipment being interconnected by
3 two optical fibers; wherein the capacity of each line is divided into two, one half thereof
4 being used as a working line and the remaining half thereof being used as a protection
5 line, or the transmission equipment are interconnected by four optical fibers, each being
6 used as a working line or a protection line; and wherein, upon occurrence of said obstacle,
7 said isolation instruction information further comprising a no-signal condition caused by
8 stopping the transmission of said optical transmitter.

1 9. A transmission apparatus for a network according to claim 1, said
2 transmission apparatus and an adjacent transmission equipment being interconnected by
3 four optical fibers, each being used as a working line or a protection line; and wherein,
4 upon occurrence of said obstacle, said isolation instruction information further
5 comprising a no-signal condition caused by stopping the transmission of said optical
6 transmitter.

1 10. A transmission apparatus for a network according to claim 1,
2 wherein said transmission apparatus, upon occurrence of said obstacle, prepares as said
3 isolation instruction any of the following:

4 said isolation instruction information is said overhead, wherein said
5 overhead indicates that said received synchronous multiplex signals are both in signal
6 obstacle conditions,

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1 12. A telecommunication system according to claim 11, wherein said
2 isolation instruction information further comprises said overhead, and wherein said
3 overhead indicates that said synchronous multiplex signals to be received are in a signal
4 obstacle condition.

4 overhead for supervision, maintenance and operations of nodes and transmission lines is
5 added to payload in which main signals are multiplexed, each of said nodes comprising:
6 a plurality of optical transmitters,
7 a plurality of optical receivers,
8 a cross connect unit that divides and multiplexes said payload input
9 received from at least one of said plurality of optical receivers, and thereupon switches
10 output to any of said plurality of nodes,
11 a clock unit that supplies a clock signal to at least said cross connect unit,
12 an equipment supervision unit that supervises at least said cross connect
13 unit and said clock unit;
14 wherein responsive to detection of a condition in which obstacles have
15 occurred in more than one group, in at least one of said plurality of nodes, said equipment
16 supervision unit creates optical transmitter output isolation instruction information in
17 order to isolate said nodes in which obstacles have occurred in more than one group, from
18 said network.

1 19. An network transmission system according to claim 17, wherein
2 said isolation instruction information further comprises said overhead indicating that said
3 synchronous multiplex signals to be received are in a signal obstacle condition.

1 20. An network transmission system according to claim 17, wherein
2 said isolation instruction information further comprises said overhead instructing a ring
3 switch transmitting, upon reception, the received synchronous multiplex signals.

21. An network transmission system according to claim 17, wherein
said isolation instruction information further comprises said overhead indicating that said
synchronous multiplex signals to be transmitted are in a signal obstacle condition.

1 22. An network transmission system according to claim 17, wherein
2 said isolation instruction information further comprises in no signal condition caused by
3 stopping the transmission of said optical transmitter.

1 23. An network transmission system according to claim 17, wherein
2 said node, upon occurrence of said obstacle, prepares as said isolation instruction any of
3 the following:

- 1 26. The method of claim 24, wherein said network further comprises a
2 SONET network.
- 1 27. The method of claim 26, wherein said SONET network is a 2 fiber
2 BLSR network
- 1 28. The method of claim 26, wherein said SONET network is a 4 fiber
2 BLSR network

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Transmission Equipment for Network and Network Transmission System

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

According to the invention, in a transmission apparatus, there are provided

an equipment supervision unit detecting an obstacle in the equipment and a switching control unit controlling the switching operation of transmission lines. When the equipment supervision unit detects condition in which obstacles have occurred in more than one groups of the cross connect unit or the clock unit in which paths provided are disconnected, the same K-bytes as in the case when SF failure is detected are outputted to all the fibers to be inputted to the equipment. Alternatively, an FS-R command is executed to both sides, or Line-AIS is inserted in all the outputted transmission lines, or an output is disconnected, so that the equipment is isolated and the paths provided through a node is relieved.

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FIG.1

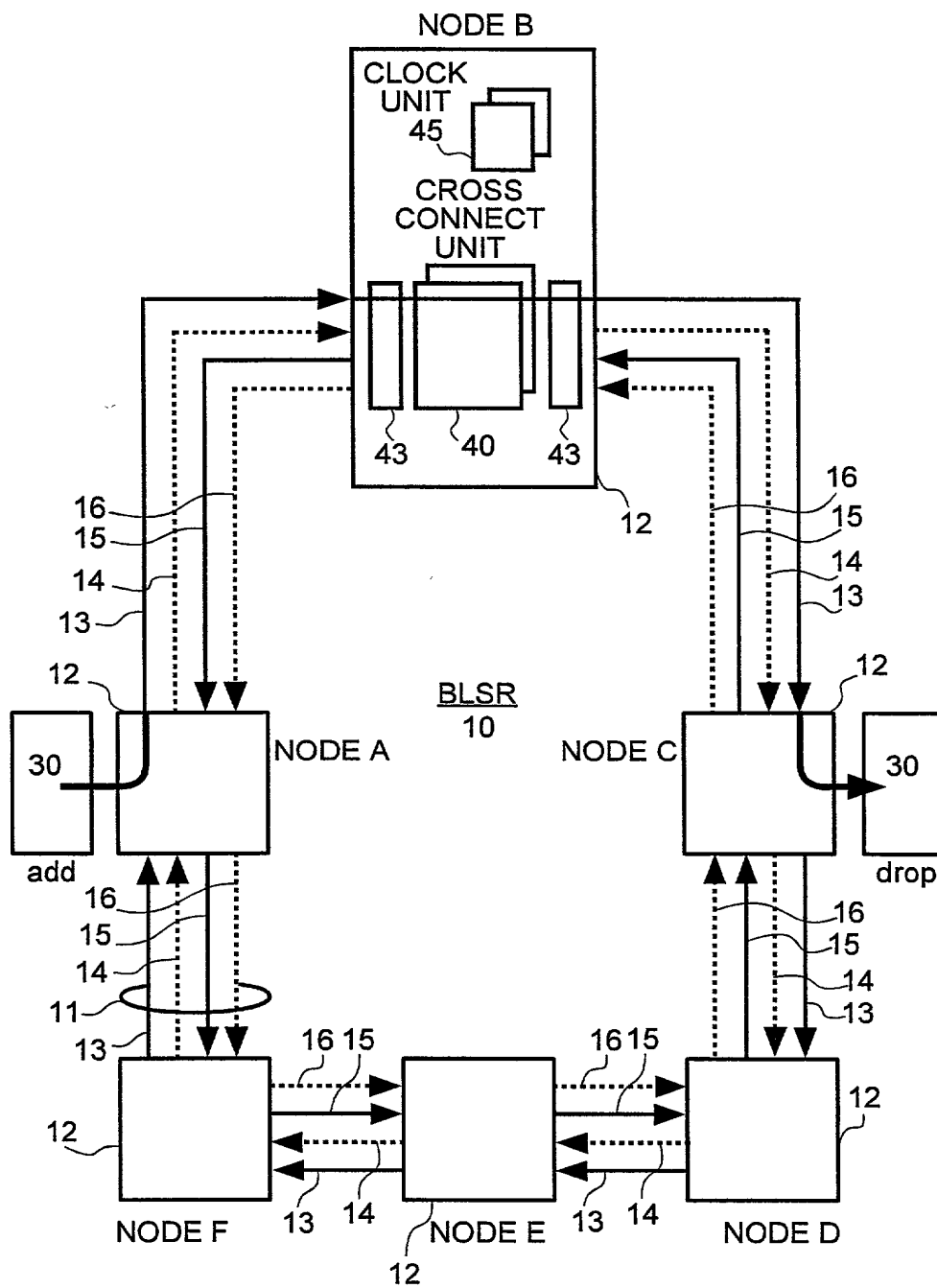


FIG.2

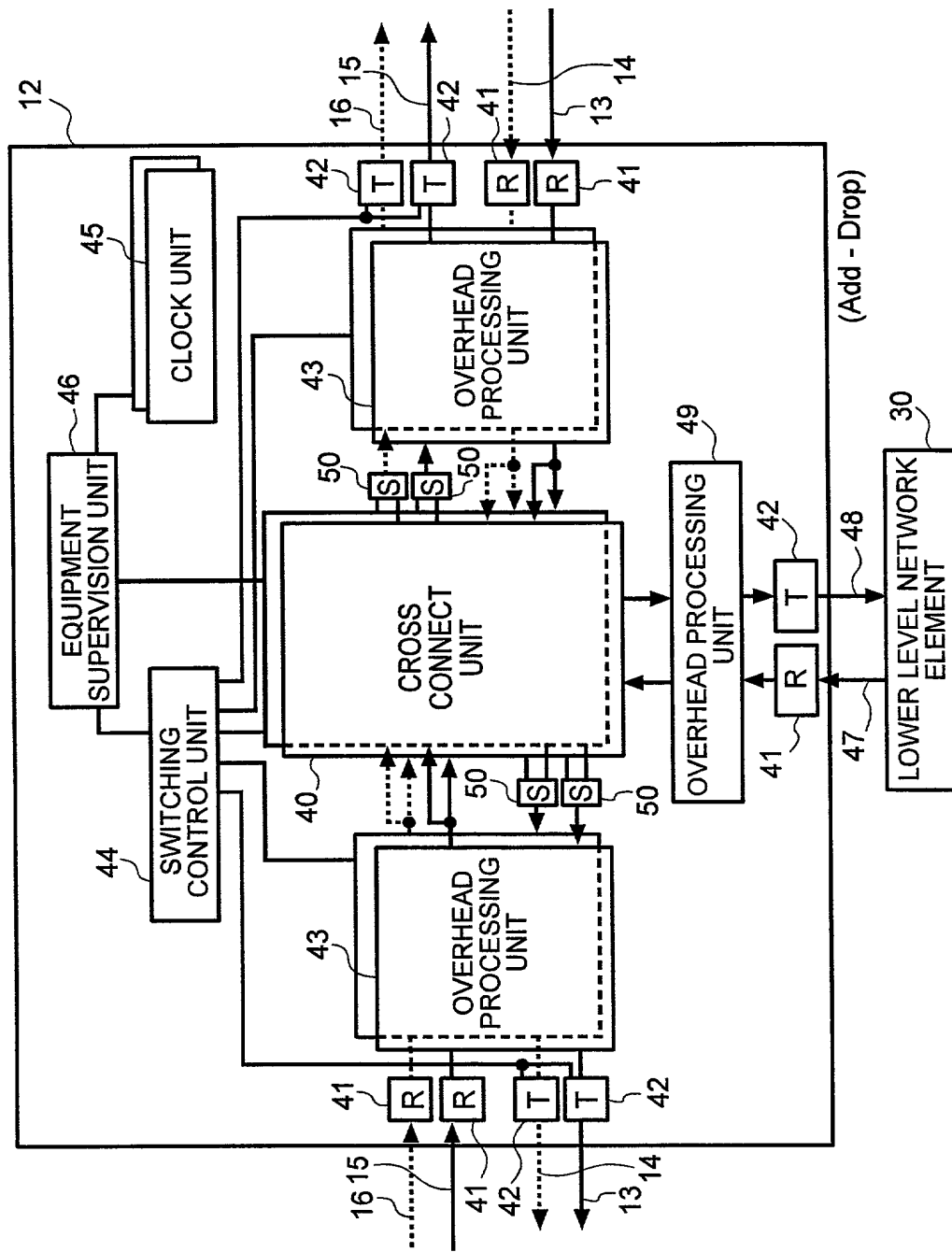
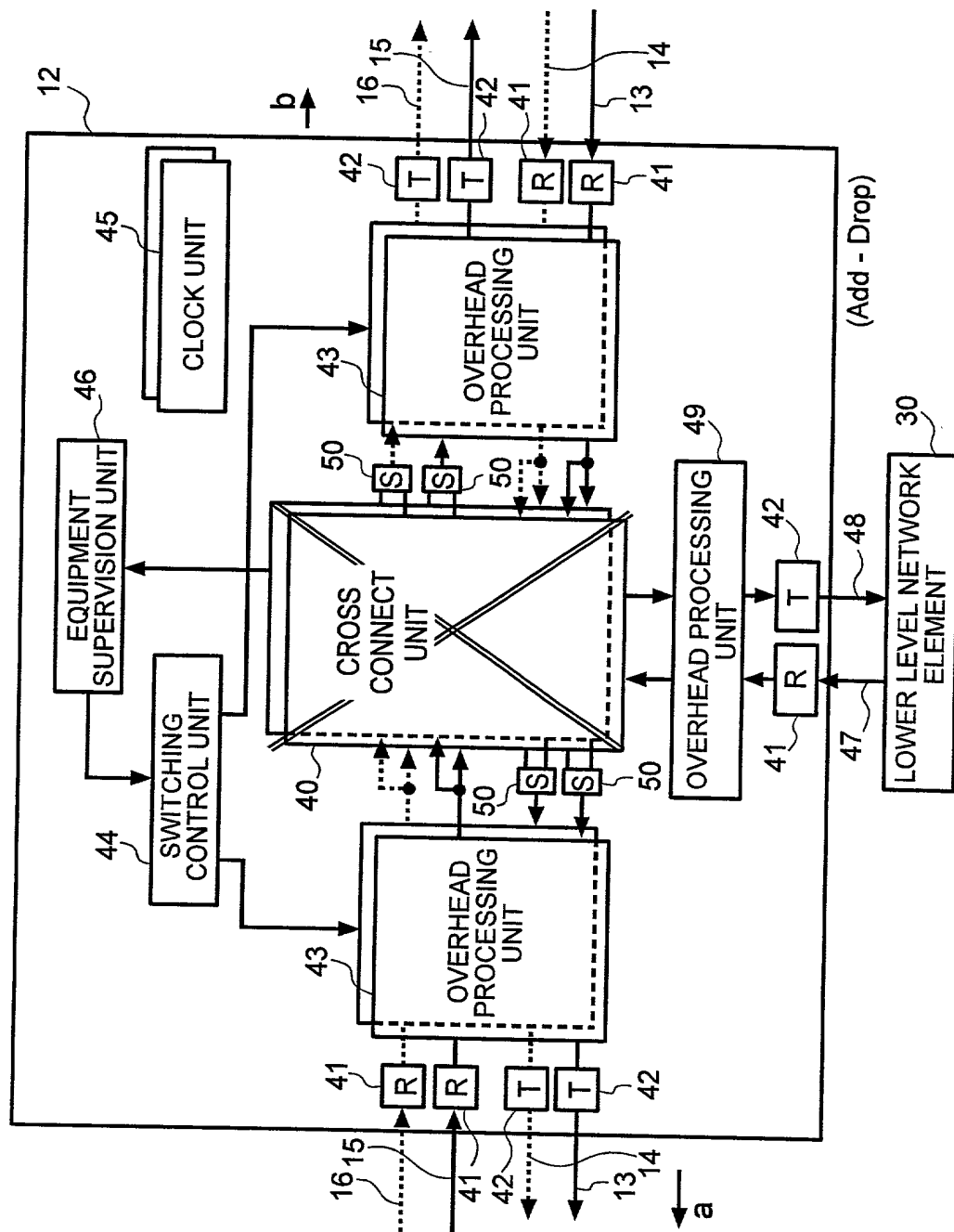


FIG.3



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FIG.4

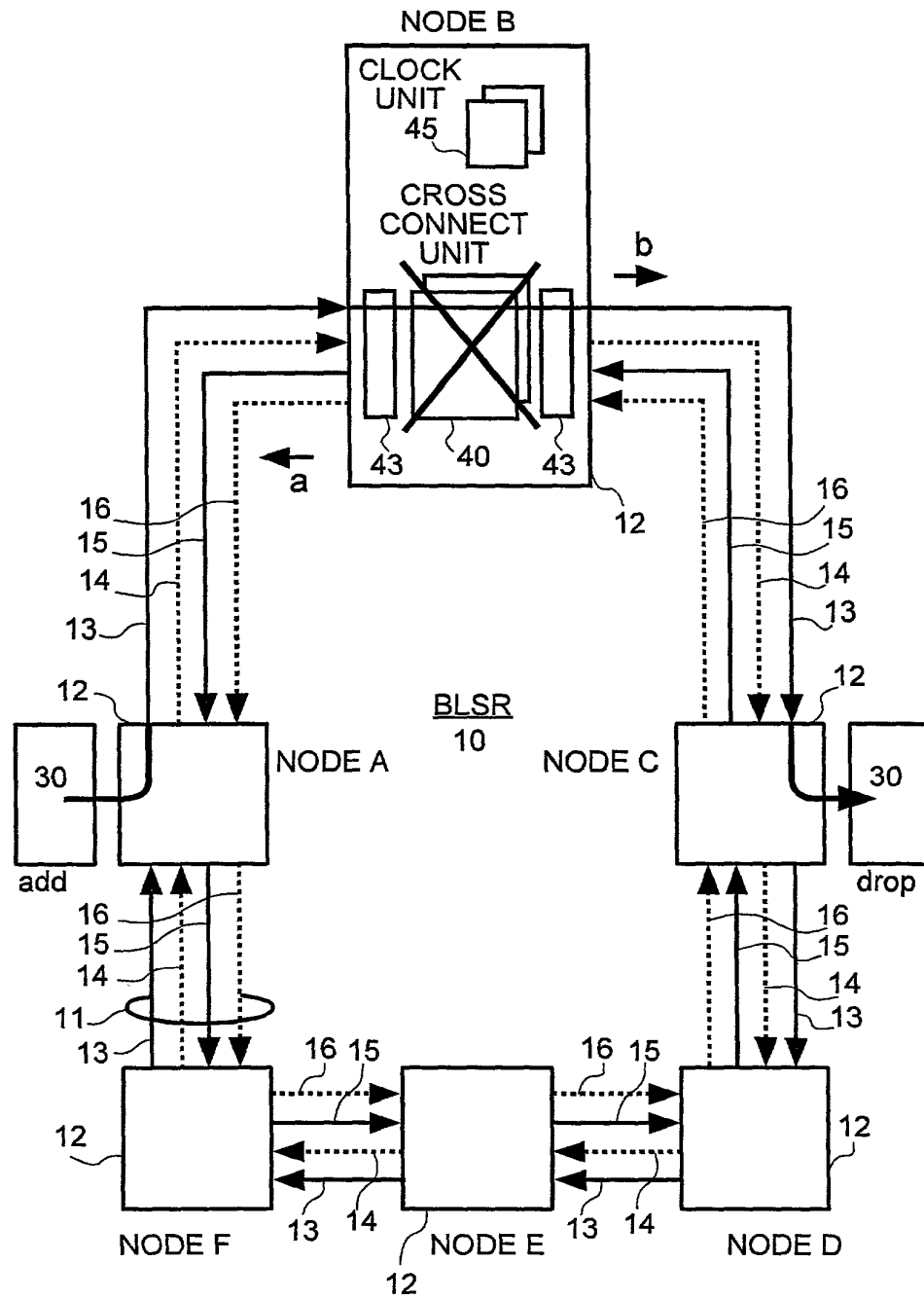


FIG.5

No.	OUTPUT K - byte
PATTERN 1	a=K1 : [SF - R/A] K2 : [B/S/idle] b=K1 : [SF - R/C] K2 : [B/S/idle]
PATTERN 2	a=K1 : [FS - R/A] K2 : [B/S/idle] b=K1 : [FS - R/C] K2 : [B/S/idle]
PATTERN 3	a=K1 : [*****] K2 : [*****111] b=K1 : [*****] K2 : [*****111]

FIG.6

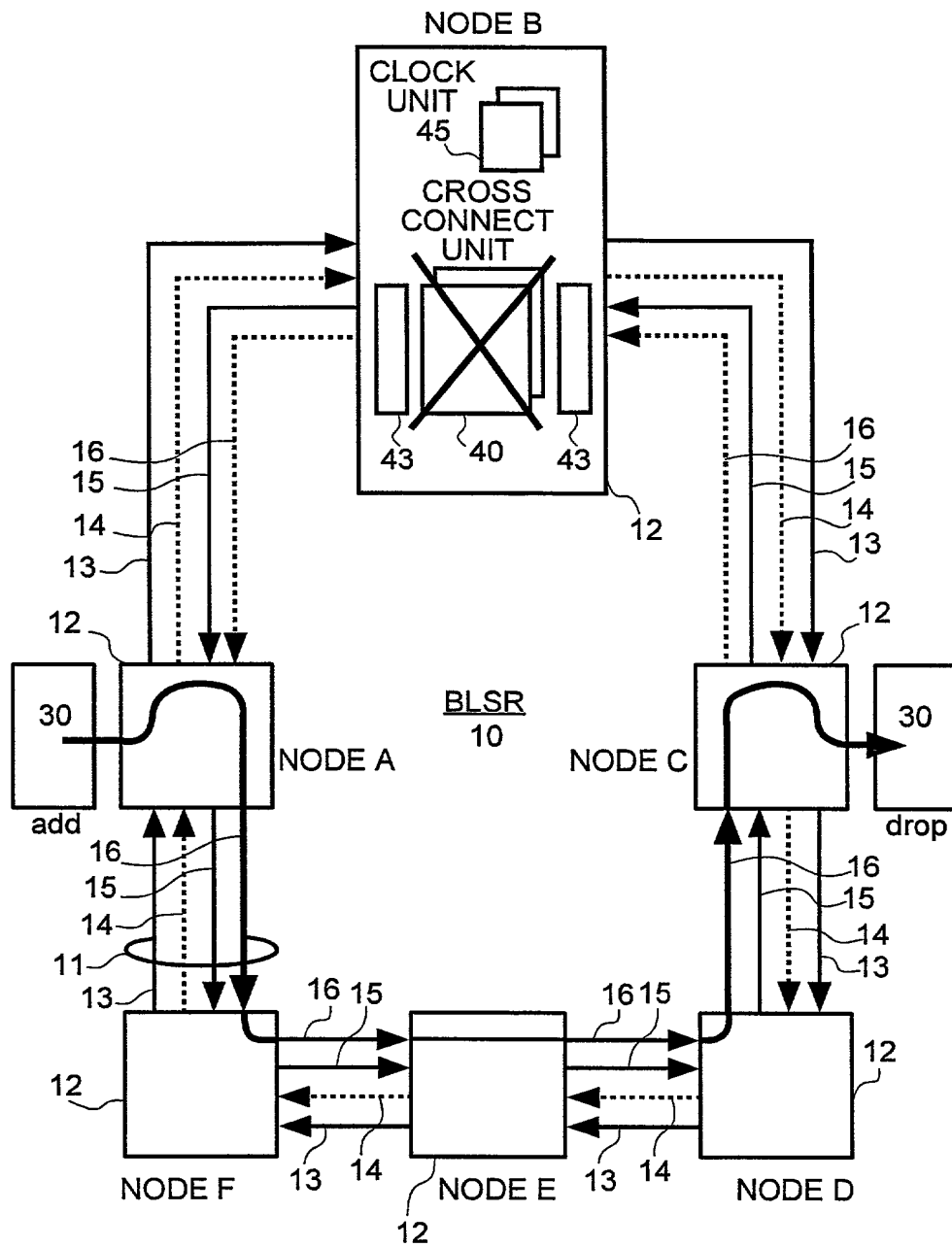


FIG. 7

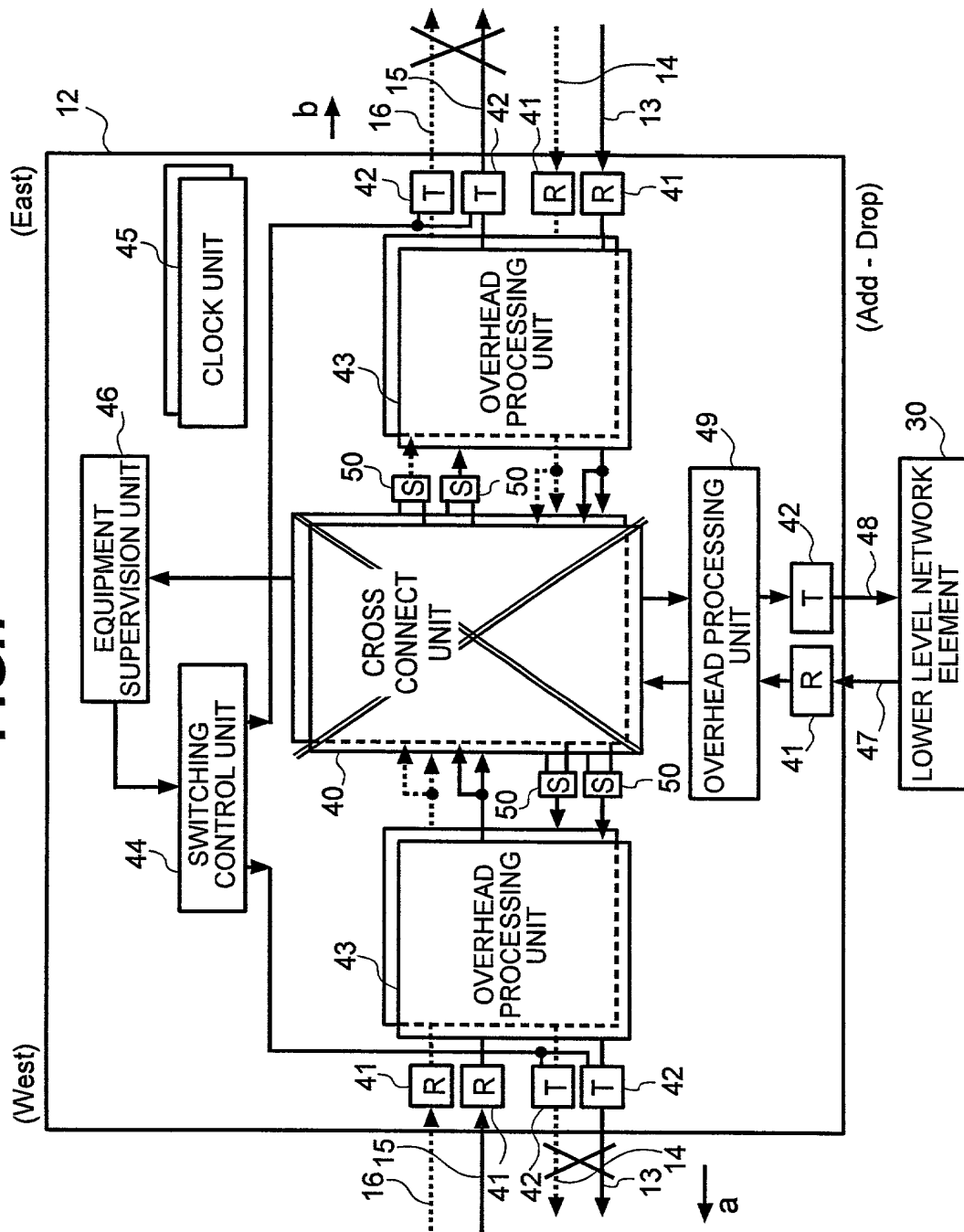




FIG.9

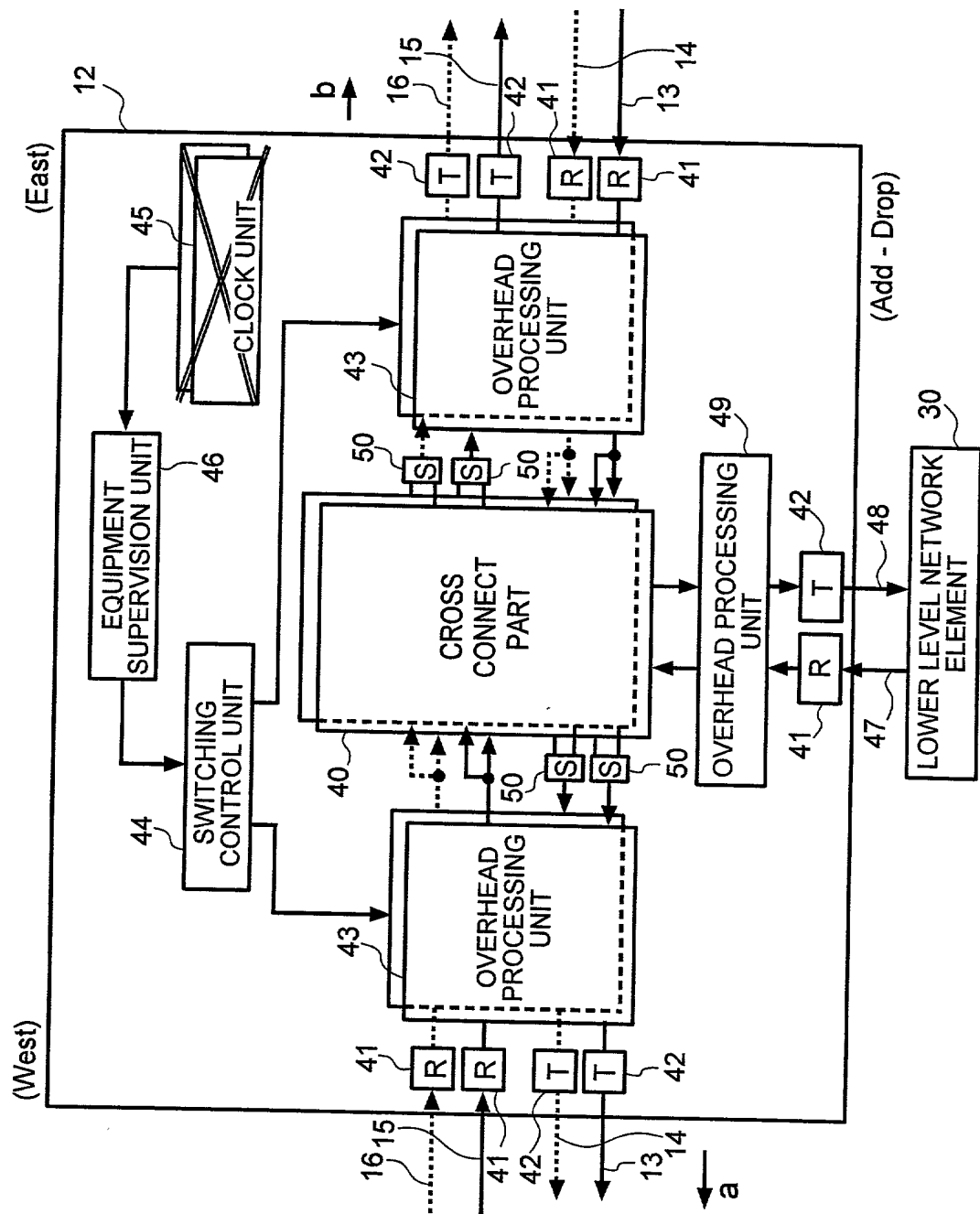


FIG.11

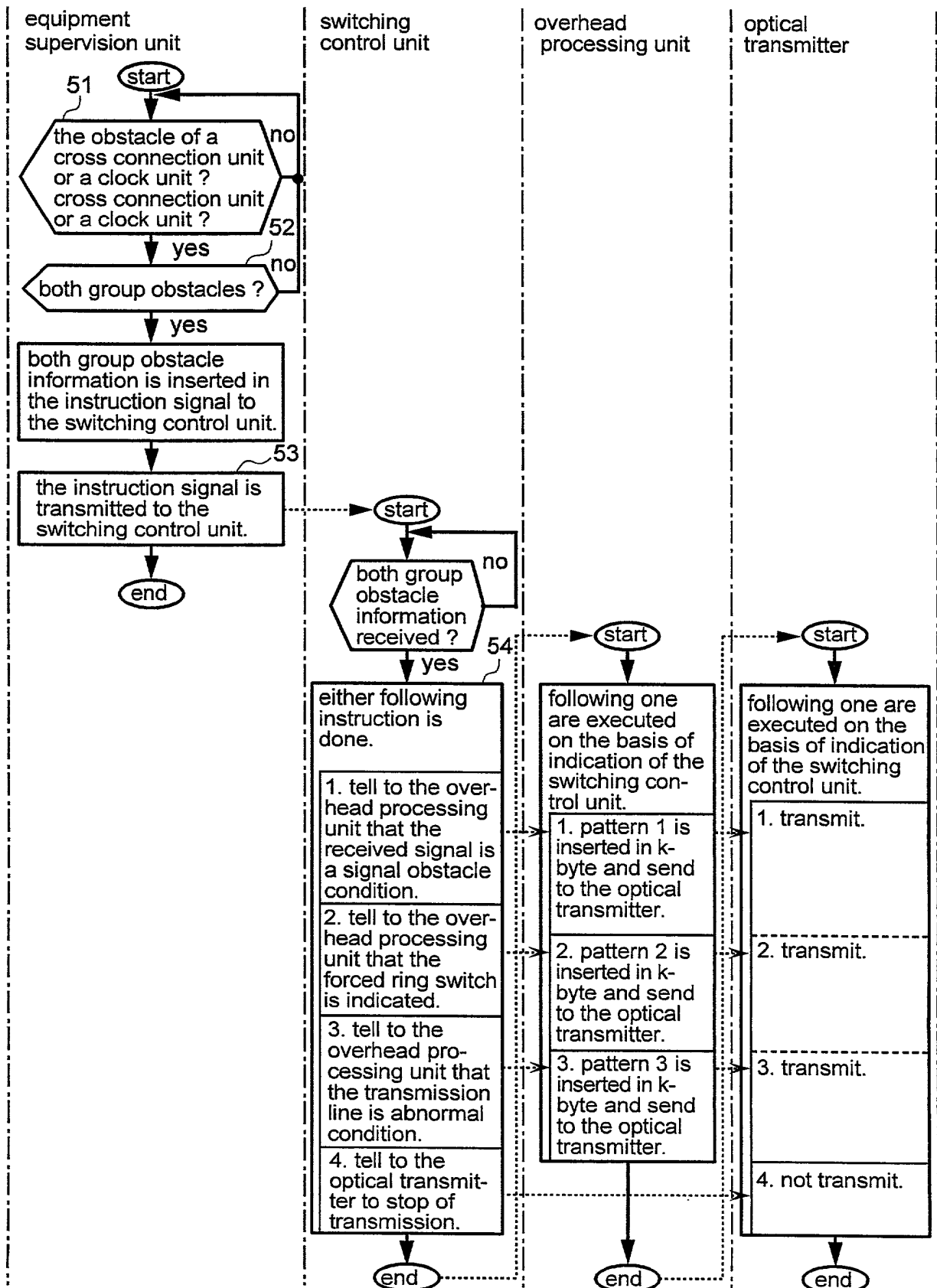


FIG.12

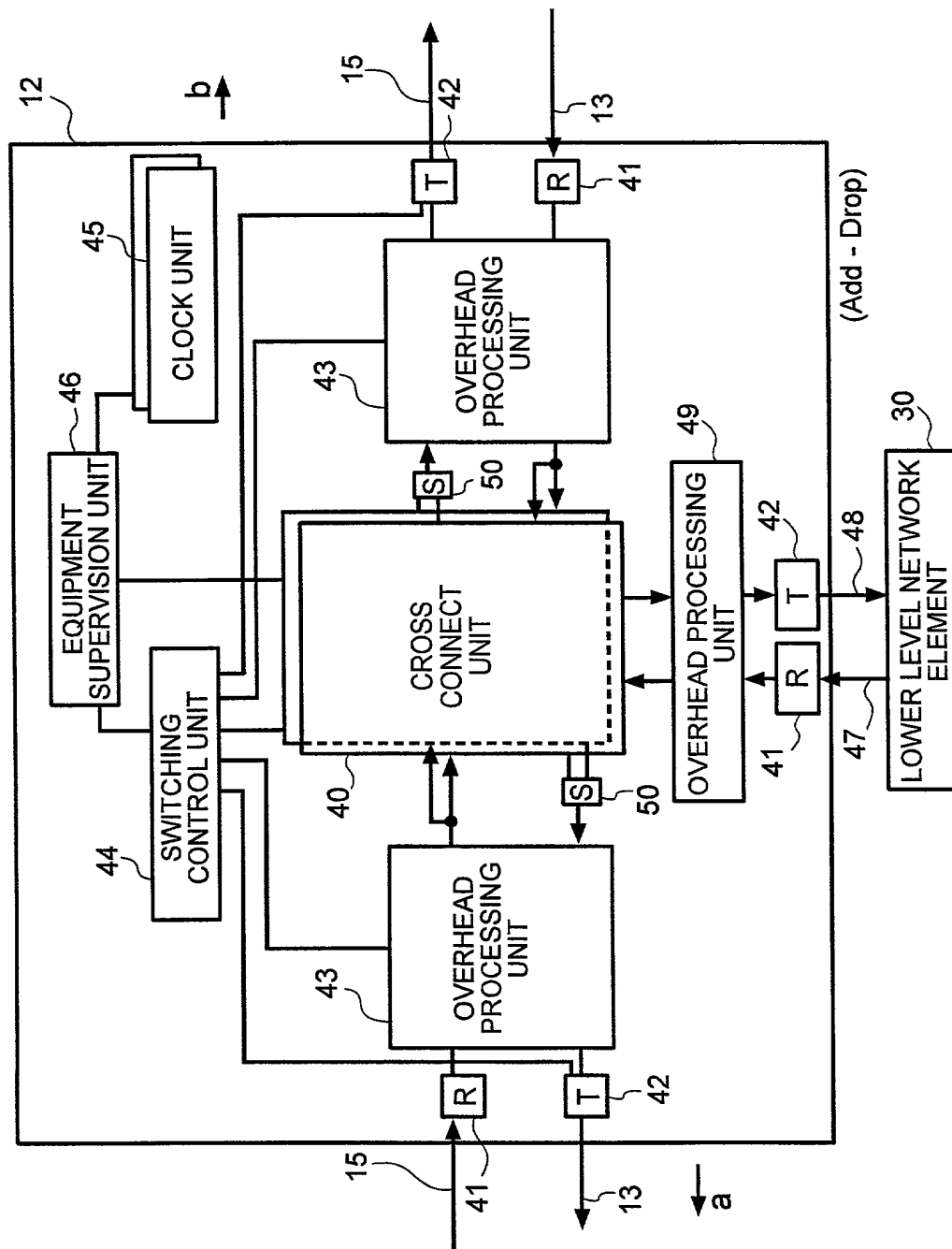


FIG.13

